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Castro Affirms He Concealed Marxism-Leninism in Revolt

HAVANA, Dec. 23 (UPI)—Premier Fidel Castro said today that he was a "Marxist-Leninist" during his mountain guerrilla warfare days against the Batista regime.

He said he had hidden the fact because "otherwise he would not have been able to press his revolution to a successful conclusion."

"In a previously unannounced speech to the graduating class of a 'revolutionary instruction school' which imparts political education to troop and militia units, Dr. Castro said:

"If, while we were on Turquino Peak [in the Sierra Maestra of eastern Oriente Province], at a time when we were 'Campe Gales' [a Cuban idiom for expression meaning when we were nothing], we had said, 'We are Marxist-Leninists,' it is possible that we would never have been able to descend to the lowlands from Turquino Peak."

"So," he continued, "we called it something else."

"We did not present that theme. We presented others that people were able to understand easily."

Premier Castro's speech was not broadcast to the outside world. He told his audience of political instruction teachers that "to make a revolution, one has to be a Marxist-Leninist."

"The [Cuban] revolution is today Marxist-Leninist," he added. "It is also a revolution of law and Marxist-Leninist ideology."

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Castro indicated that he was glad he had confessed his Marxist-Leninist views Dec. 2. He said:

"We have a tremendous advantage now. The fact that we can make our own revolution utilizing all ideological resources. . . . Revolutionary theory has been joined with revolutionary deeds."

Dr. Castro stressed the importance of his revolutionary instruction schools.

"Their fundamental task is the formation of ideological revolutionaries and, through them, the people," he declared.

He said revolutions made the masses because "they teach thousands of peasants and dress-makers; they have educated almost 1,000,000 persons on whom they have put shoes and have dressed and fed."

Dr. Castro said that "Marxism-Leninism" was not a catharsis of the doctrine of death. . . . It is a live doctrine with which the individual arms himself and which enables him to prepare himself to resolve adequately his problems."

He told his audience that they should continue their studies despite their graduation.

"It is necessary that you continue studying," he said. "Since I cannot go to school, I use spare moments in which to

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